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PRIME MINISTER MEETS PRESSMEN

Reveals France May Join In Exploitation Of Iron Mines

By Our Own Reporter

France has shown considerable interest in the joint exploitation of Afghanistan's iron ore deposits in Hajigak and in prospecting for petroleum deposits in southern Afghanistan, Prime Minister Noor Ahmad Etemadi told a press conference this morning.

Referring to the prospects of exploiting the Hajigak mines, on which preliminary survey has been made with the help of French experts, the Prime Minister said that "first of all we have got to make sure it is economically feasible."

"Considering that the ore contains over 65 per cent iron and that ready markets are available in the nearby countries there is no reason why economic feasibility should be a problem", he added.

He said iron and steel industries are considered as heavy industry and for such an industry to justify the expenditure needed production must be heavy, say, of the order of one million tons per year or more.

During his recent visit to Paris, the prime minister said he had mentioned the prospects of French cooperation in the exploitation of Afghanistan's mineral resources to French leaders and that they had shown notable interest.

Strikes and demonstrations last May had inflicted considerable damage on the French economy, he added. This, however, does not mean that French assistance will not be forthcoming, he explained.

Air Traffic Here Up 19 P.C. In 64-67 Period

By Our Own Reporter

Kabul does not boast one of the world's busiest international airports. But the rate of growth in passenger traffic here between 1964 and 1967 has grown 19 per cent, two per cent more than the world average of 17 per cent per year.

In 1964 a total 46,640 passengers embarked or disembarked in Kabul airport. The figure in 1967 rose to 73,452.

If the present rate of growth is sustained the number of air travellers using Kabul Airport in 1978 will hit the half million mark, projections made by the Bureau of Statistics of the Afghan Air Authority show.

The air cargo traffic however is not keeping up with the world average. The increase in air cargo between 1964 and 1967 was 13 per cent per annum. The world average, however, was 23 per cent.

A total of 2,917,538 kilograms of goods were handled from Kabul and Kandahar airports. Of this 1,757,677 kgs. were imported and 1,159,861 kgs. were exported.

(Continued on page 4)

RDD Reports Opening 91 New Schools

KABUL, Oct. 20, (Bakhtar).—During the first six months of this year the Rural Development Department has opened 91 new village schools. Another 30 schools will be opened before the end of the year, a department source said.

The department now has 400 schools opened under its 57 rural development projects enrolling 11,000 students.

These schools are opened where Ministry of Education schools are not within walking distance of children in certain areas and they go up to the third year.

If the area is large enough and the enrollment requires it the school is elevated to primary school level. There are now 38 such primary schools run by the Rural Development Department.

The department employees 590 teachers. However, department officials said a shortage of teachers and materials still remains a problem.

This was discussed by the Rural Development Department representatives at the education directors' seminar and he hopes some decision on further cooperation between the Ministry of Education and the Rural Development Department can be reached to eliminate this problem.

Afterwards Suspended:

U.S. Black Athletes Give Power Salute In Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 20, (Reuters).—American Negro athlete John Carlos, centre of the Olympic "black power" controversy, said yesterday he would remain in Mexico City until the last Olympic event was over.

Friday Carlos and another Negro member of the U.S. team, Tommie

USSR Credit To Be Used On Roads

KABUL, Oct. 20, (Bakhtar).—An agreement on a 200,000 ruble Soviet credit was signed between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union yesterday for the Pule-Khumri-Sherbagan highway and maintenance of Kushk-Herat-Kandahar highway. The agreement was signed for Afghanistan by Ghulam Ahmad Popal, deputy finance minister, and for the Soviet Union by Alexander Kolov, deputy economic councillor of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

Health Minister Back From France

KABUL, Oct. 20, (Bakhtar).—Miss Kubra Nourzai, Minister of Public Health, returned from a visit to France and Iran yesterday.

During her three weeks' visits in France and a week's stay in Iran she visited health institutions and medical schools.

But U.S. Denies It

Thieu: Hanoi Has Accepted Terms For Halting Bombing

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20, (Reuters).—A spokesman of U.S. State Department said early yesterday he had no information to confirm a statement by the South Vietnamese President, Nguyen Van Thieu, that Hanoi had accepted U.S. conditions for halting bombing of North Vietnam.

Both the State Department and the White House were urgently checking reports of President Thieu's remarks, made to newsmen at the resort town of Vung Tau.

The White House spokesman refused to make any comment beyond saying that he was watching the reports.

Earlier Thieu said that Hanoi had accepted United States proposals for a complete halt to the bombing of North Vietnam.

He also told reporters that the North Vietnamese had agreed to enlarged formal peace talks which would include representation from both the South Vietnamese government and the Viet Cong's National Front.

The president did not give details of the conditions for a complete bombing halt, but told reporters he would make a fuller statement at a press conference later.

He spoke following three days

of hectic speculations in Saigon between government leaders and the U.S. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker.

President Thieu told a reporter who asked him where he had learned about this decision, that Hanoi had sent the message to Washington through the French news agency in Hanoi.

He said: "The North Vietnamese government has accepted the Americans' bombing halt conditions and to open formal peace talks including the Vietnamese government and the NLF."

House Committee Continues Talk On Pazhwak's Speech

KABUL, Oct. 20, (Bakhtar).—The Wolosi Jirgah's Committee on International Affairs yesterday continued its discussions on the speech made by Afghanistan's permanent representative at the United Nations and head of the Afghan delegation at the 23rd General Assembly of the United Nations, Abdur Rahman Pazhwak, on October 10 at the General Assembly.

It was decided that the discussions will be continued and the full text of the speech acquired from the Foreign Ministry for this purpose.

In the afternoon the committee took up the issue of tourist visas and it was decided to ask Interior Minister Dr. Omar Wardak to appear for answering questions at the Wednesday's meeting of the committee.

The committee approved the loan agreement between Afghanistan and Britain for the purchase of Bedford trucks and the construction of a 400 bed hospital financed by Federal Republic of Germany credit.

The Committee on Pashtoonistan discussed improvements to be made in Kushkal Khan Highschool. The committee on Public Works heard the explanations by the Vice President Mortgage and Construction Bank on the bank's outstanding credits.

The committee on Legal and Legislative Affairs discussed the ordinance governing the attorneys.

Al-Fatah Declaration Urges End To Jarring's Mission

BEIRUT, Oct. 20, (AFP).—The Al-Fatah Palestine nationalist organisation published a "political declaration" here yesterday which categorically rejected all UN resolutions on Palestine and called on the Arab countries "to put an end to Dr. Jarring's mission in the Middle East."

Al-Fatah rejected "any peaceful solution which does not take into account the real expression of the Palestinian personality which has made its appearance through the armed combat" in the area.

The statement said, "the Al-Fatah revolution is not directed against Judaism as a race or religion but against Zionism, which is an imperialist movement."

"We are fighting Zionism not only to liberate the occupied Arab territories but also to liberate the Jews themselves from the terrorism and discrimination practised against them by the world Zionist movement."

Then Al-Fatah, which is one of the main Palestinian resistance movements (the other two being the Peoples Liberation Front and the Palestine Liberation Organi-

World Bank Sets Birth Control A Term For Loans

BUENOS AIRES, Oct. 20, (Reuters).—World Bank President Robert McNamara said last night countries seeking funds from the bank should give priority to birth control programmes.

In a speech prepared for delivery to the inter-American Press Association here, the former U.S. secretary of defence declared the World Bank would not attempt to dictate policy to any country but would offer birth control assistance to those which sought help.

He called rapid population growth the greatest barrier to economic progress and social well-being and said the World Bank must give priority to the problem.

"And we must ask that governments which seek our assistance do so, too," he said, "and that they evolve a serious strategy for stabilising the rate of population growth."

McNamara said the World Bank would help to determine the best methods of family planning and make this information available to countries requesting it.

Latin America was experiencing the greatest population explosion of any continent and would have 650 million people by the end of this century, 400 million more than at present he said.

World Population Up By 65 Million In Only One Year

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 20, (DPA).—World population increased from the middle 1966 until the middle of 1967 by 65 million and reached a worldwide total of 3,420 thousand million.

If this population growth of 1.9 per cent continues, world population will have doubled by the year 2006, the United Nations Demographic Year Book published yesterday showed.

The statistical book said that world population increased daily by 180,000 between the middle of 1966 and the middle of 1967.

It reported that three-quarters of the world population lived in developing areas, that half the world population lived in Asia and the population of Peoples' China was estimated at 720 million with growth rate of 1.4 per cent.



An exhibition of Afghan and West German paintings and sculpture opened here yesterday afternoon. The exhibition is part of the Afghan-West German cultural week which began yesterday morning.

Looking at the pictures are (left to right) Abdul Ghaffar Breshna, FRG Ambassador Gerhard Moltmann, Deputy Information and Culture, Minister Mo-

hammad Khaled Roshan, and Khair Mohammad. Breshna and Khair Mohammad are among those artists whose works are included in the exhibition.

Still On TV:

Wally, Walt And Donn Live Space Show

CAPE KENNEDY, Oct. 20, (AFP).—Apollo-7 yesterday afternoon became the second manned spacecraft to have remained in space more than eight days.

By 14.58 GMT Apollo-7 had been in space for 190 hours 55 minutes breaking the record set by Gemini-5 in 1965.

The absolute record was still held by Gemini-7 which stayed in space for more than 14 days in December 1965.

The flight yesterday continued as smoothly as possible with doctors

at the space centre expressing their satisfaction that the crew seemed to be less bothered by their colds than they had been for the past few days.

Flight commander Walter Schirra however warned the ground that they would wear their light flight suits instead of their heavy space suits when the spacecraft re-enters the atmosphere next Tuesday, for fear of the pressurised helmet rupturing their eardrums.

"We feel that the risk of the heavy helmet rupturing our eardrums

is higher than the risk of injury without having our suits on," he said.

A final decision on this fine point has been postponed to a later date. NASA authorities said it was the subject of considerable discussion among those in charge of the Apollo flight.

Chief pilot Walter Schirra complained with his usual frankness about the excessive paperwork he and his crew must do daily.

He has also grumbled about the

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THE KABUL TIMES

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Food For Thought

In public we say the race is to the strongest; in private we know that a lopsided man runs the fastest along the little side hills of success.

Frank Moore Colby

Demographic Crisis

The world population will double itself to 8210 million in 40 years time. This means that from now there will be at least 180,000 additional mouths every day to be fed. This alarming statistic has been published in the United Nations Demographic Yearbook which also states that Latin America, Asia and Africa have the greatest rate of growth.

The yearbook mentions that almost half of the world's population lives in Asia and 75 per cent in the developing countries. This state of affairs is something that should give rise to a great concern the world over. The question that should be asked is whether this planet is capable of producing twice the amount of food in 40 years time. It is obvious that unless miraculously new production techniques are invented in agriculture the world food production may fall short of meeting the demand for it during the next century.

It is obvious that organised world-wide efforts should be directed along two major fronts to check a possible universal famine in the future. First, the World Food and Agricultural Organisation should be enormously expanded to move fast in cooperation with potential food growing countries to plan a strategy for increasing world food production by leaps and bounds. This effort will require for the organisation to have access to enormous funds so that modern science and technology could be utilised to increasing the per acre production throughout the world by using artificial fertilizer, better land tenure, better irrigation systems and improved seed.

More land will have to be reclaimed. Vast

stretches of land in different countries of the world remain barren and desolate due to lack of water. Reclamation should be undertaken through the use of subterranean water resources, intelligent use and conservation of surface water resources and, where needed, through establishing desalination plants. We must also investigate the practicality of under sea cultivation. Continental shelves and even deep ocean beds, it is said, offer great possibilities for food production such as fish and different kinds of vegetables.

The second front of the struggle has to do with birth control. This is perhaps more essential and more difficult to organise. For one thing large scale publicity is required to show that family planning is a social responsibility of the modern man and secondly, birth control facilities and techniques must be made available free of charge and in abundant quantities. Perhaps national efforts in this area could best be coordinated and made more effective if an international family planning organisation were established as a specialised United Nations agency. Such an agency, too, would require enormous funds and resources to function speedily and effectively.

The world at large should realise that over population is a universal problem and cannot be fought by one country or one nation. To provide funds for such purpose is one of the most urgent requirements of the present generation in the world. The best way to provide such funds is for all countries to agree to devote a certain percentage of the funds they spend on armaments and standing armies. Action is required today for tomorrow might be too late.

HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

Saturday's *Amis* carried an editorial on the Red Crescent first aid centres and their importance in the promotion of public health.

The Red Crescent Society has recently opened a number of first aid centres in various parts of the capital to treat road casualties and emergency patients until proper medical care is provided for them. The editorial welcomed this and considered it to be an indispensable complement to hospitals and public health clinics.

The same issue of the paper carried another editorial on the Afghan-West German Cultural Week. The inauguration of the Afghan-West German cultural week in Kabul is another sign of the desire of both countries to further strengthen and expand their friendly ties.

After enumerating the areas of cultural cooperation between the two countries, the editorial considered it useful if a similar arrangement were made in the Federal Republic in order to further introduce our German friends to the history and culture of Afghanistan.

The paper also carried first installment of the text of a speech delivered by First Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Dr. Ali Ahmad Popal during a ceremony held for installing the newly appointed rector of Kabul University.

Yesterday *Israh* carried a letter to the editor by Mohammad Suleiman Parwaz complaining about the way fresh fruit is sold and consumed. During mid-spring and summer months different varieties of fruit appear in the market the sale and consumption of which in most cases fall short of minimum standards of hygiene and medical recommendations.

Fruit are often exposed not only to dust but also to flies and wasps, etc. Small children and sometimes grown ups are seen eating fruit exposed to these health hazards often without being properly washed.

The letter complained that in spite of the fact that the launching of a relentless campaign against flies has often been recommended by newspapers and individuals, no effective measures have been adopted so far.

Flies are constantly increasing due to open sewage and the piling

of refuse on the streets. A look at the old town is enough to make one shudder to the bones and wonder how on earth the people living in the area have survived so far.

The letter in very strong terms called attention of the authorities concerned to the need for a general clean up of the town.

It also called on the authorities to impose firm restrictions against the sale of fruit exposed to flies for the sake of promoting public health.

Another letter suggested that if the people of Afghanistan decide to give up smoking and drinking tea for one day during the year the money saved will be enough to

build 20 modern high schools. The letter signed M. Waliz calculated that every Afghan roughly consumes one Afghani worth of tea every day.

It also figured that around five million Afghans worth of cigarettes are smoked in one day throughout Afghanistan. This means 20 million afghans with which at least 20 high schools can be built.

It also said that if our people stopped drinking tea and smoking cigarettes altogether in a few years time the money saved would be enough to pave all our roads and build enough schools in all parts of the country.

World Press

A joint new publishing concern is to be formed in Britain if the board of directors of the Sunday paper *'News of the World'* accepts an offer to merge with Pergamon press, owned by millionaire Labour M. P. Robert Maxwell.

The *News of the World* is a popular British paper with the largest circulation of all British papers—over six million. Its pages contain mostly various sensations. Pergamon press, on the other hand, is well known for its scientific and technical publications.

Maxwell declared that the character of the publications of the two houses would not change after merging.

Financial circles in the city, however, think that the board of directors of the *News of the World* will not accept the offer which is four million pounds.

The conservative *'Frankfurter Allgemeine'* commented on the visit to West Germany of Burma's General Ne Win which began Thursday.

The visit, in return for one to Burma by West German Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger a year ago, is "an opportunity to continue personal diplomacy," the paper said.

"There are signs that Burma wants to maintain or strengthen its policy of cautious approach towards West Germany. The country which

cocooned itself against all foreign influence for years, is now having to look for balance to the Chinese pressure. West Germany sees good relations with Burma as success for its policy of peace and a chance for the future."

Britain may have to make an "agonising reappraisal" over the Nigerian war just as the United States is doing over Vietnam, the *Times* said yesterday.

"In Britain," the paper wrote, "real argument is over the nature of the (Nigerian) war. The government sees it as a local tribal revolt. Its critics feel that the old Nigeria has broken apart and can only be put together again on a new basis—which cannot be done by force. It, as seems certain, Biafra continues to resist. Britain may have to make the same sort of agonising reappraisal that the Americans are making over Vietnam. There, too, it is turning out to be a different sort of war than the one they thought they went into."

The *New York Times* said Saturday that representatives of Israel and Jordan have undertaken direct talks on the Middle East conflict.

In a dispatch from Cairo, the *Times* reported that highly-placed sources sympathetic to the regime of (Egyptian) President Gamal Abdel Nasser, said the contact had been made in Israeli-controlled territory.

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United Nations

Pazhwak addresses 23rd General Assembly

Following is the full text of the statement made by Ambassador Abdul Rahman Pazhwak, chairman of the delegation of Afghanistan at the 23rd session of the General Assembly on October 10, 1968.

Mr. President, This Assembly is not a philosophical forum where we ask why baffling events occur or what reality is. But it is an institution made up of human beings who ought to pay attention to realities.

Our difficulties descend upon us as a torrent of confusion. We meet a universal preoccupation on all continents irrespective of beliefs, ideologies or alliances—an overwhelming confusion on national and international levels.

Some old illusions may have perished, but most of them persist. The lost beliefs have not been replaced by any new faith.

Something almost new has entered international affairs. Many past fears are now ugly realities, while no hopes have developed into anticipated beauty. These ugly realities are, Mr. President, the deviations from law and morality, and they are worldwide.

Every moment is fraught with imperiling uncertainties. Never before has man's daily life been attended by so much fear. Man has never stood so frustrated by what threatens him. History has shown that no condition is more trying.

In this baffling position we are compelled to react in one way. We must withstand the winds of confusion and strive to overcome the difficulties tending to disrupt civilisation and morality.

The only place to do this is the United Nations. No one, so far, has been able to suggest a more effective alternative. What circumstances dictate now is a 'new departure' in ways of thinking, policies and

positions away from the old inconclusive ones.

Some statesmen and certain sectors of the world Press have named the 23rd session of the General Assembly a "gloom-ridden" gathering. They tell us of the frustration surrounding diplomats. But we know that such dissatisfaction is nothing compared to the despair all people throughout the world will feel if we allow this Assembly to be influenced by such an atmosphere.

Mr. President, The leadership in these circumstances has been entrusted to you.

Fortunately, the Presidency of the Assembly has gone to a representative of a continent where nations, while deeply attuned, are not participants in any of the disastrous involvements we see on every other continent. We hope that understanding of this significance will aid in the full cooperation of the membership with you so that you may successfully lead the Assembly.

We further hope you will be led personally, by the spirit of the great people of Latin America in your fulfillment of your responsibilities.

As I extend our congratulations to you on your election, I would like to express, on behalf of the delegation of Afghanistan, our appreciation of the accomplishments of H. E. Manescu, President of the 22nd session of the General Assembly, and pay a warm tribute to him for the statesmanship and wisdom with which he demonstrated the qualities of his leadership.

We wish to convey through you our heartfelt congratulations to Swaziland on its admission to the United Nations as a sovereign member of this organisation. We wish the people of this new state prosperity and success in the con-

tribution they will make in the international sphere.

Mr. President,

At each session of the General Assembly one concern is more pressing than others. At this session it seems to be the breaking of the so-called detente and the renewal of cold war. This, however, is no surprise to us. At the beginning of the last session I said: "In many areas and on many levels the psychology of force has swept the minds of men and nations, and where once the virtues of peace were extolled, today the efficacy of force is openly flaunted and even exalted.... The cold war, we are told is dead, but apparently its death has been somewhat exaggerated."

To be sure, as a nuclear confrontation, as aggressive alliances, the cold war has greatly thawed, and this marks important progress.... But now we see a resurgence of rivalry in the more indirect forms of interventionism and in all manner of anti-Charter sophistry. We may appropriately ask: has the cold war gone underground; has it shifted from the big bombs to the small nations?... If this is so then the world faces a new type of power struggle, this one without even the moral justification of an ideological crusade.

Therefore, Mr. President, let us not speak about "new" doubts, new concerns, or new sources of troubles.

If we allow deviation from law and order to go unpunished in one place, we should not be surprised when it takes place with impunity elsewhere. Only the simpleminded would cry out separately for the same thing. Henceforth, we must think in terms of future consequences.

IMF annual meeting:

Ziayee addresses session of bank governors

Following is the statement given by Finance Minister Mohammad Ziayee to the IMF Board of Governors meeting on October 3.

This year the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have completed 22 years of service. Looking over the entire balance sheet of efforts and accomplishments, it seems to me that the past year, while beset with difficult problems for both organisations, nevertheless demonstrated again that with international cooperation unique achievements can be obtained.

The concerted efforts and commitments of countries under the General Arrangements to Borrow and the Fund's resources on the eve of the devaluation of the pound sterling, the approval by the majority of member countries of the Special Drawing Rights system, the special contributions of certain countries to strengthen IDA resources, the adoption of the two-tier system for gold are but a few of the developments of the past year that demonstrate the importance of international cooperation in meeting the problems that interest us all.

It is gratifying to note the growth in the number of member countries of the Fund in the last 22 years. Also important has been the growth in the resources of the Fund over these years.

It is a source of confidence that the Fund has developed into an organisation that can with coordinated contributions of members meet the challenges of maintenance of international monetary stability. The Fund deserves our enthusiastic congratulations.

The Annual Reports of the Organisations before us reveal that these operations have grown in

depth, as well as in volume and the Bank Annual Reports presents an excellent description of difficulties and of progress.

While not wishing to repeat the discussions we should take notice of the grave confrontations witnessed during the year that threatened the basis of our international monetary structure.

The devaluation of one of the major reserve currencies and the consequent devaluation of 14 other currencies presented the Fund with a task unprecedented since 1949. Despite apprehension among monetary authorities, the Fund's use of resources and counsel proved to be a source of strength and a force for orderly adjustment.

Agreements not to supply gold from monetary reserves to the gold markets, as a temporary measure, to allow a free market price to fluctuate in accordance with forces of supply and demand and to adhere to the joint communiqué of March 1968, are important contributions to the effective functioning of the international monetary system.

We support the continuation of efforts for the maintenance of the established official price of gold. It is very important that the Fund exercise all its authority in this significant area to avoid recurrence of the conditions of the 1930s.

We agree with the managing director's statement that work on the establishment of the Special Drawing Rights facility should proceed on schedule to supplement the reserve assets that are required now, more than ever be-

fore in the history of international monetary developments.

The inadequacy of international liquidity is felt not only with regard to the good situation, but not seriously by the developing nations. The recent restrictions on movement of capital and the diminishing size and more stringent conditions of bilateral loans to the developing countries are making the development efforts of many countries most difficult.

Any international scheme that creates new reserves should by necessity favor developing nations. Afghanistan has voted for the Special Drawing Rights and welcomes the scheme. However, it should be pointed out that under this scheme countries with larger quotas get the larger portion of the reserve created while those with smaller quotas get smaller portions.

We believe reserves created under SDR should not be apportioned among members rigidly on the basis of quotas, but that some system should be agreed upon whereby the developing members of the Fund have a larger share of the newly-created reserve than under the quota formula.

The task is to build up an international system of payments that will better accomplish the objectives of full employment and rising levels of income for all members of the international community and will give special support to the developing countries.

Discussions of the international payments situation cannot be separated from observation of the conditions of imbalance in external accounts of primary producing countries.

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Computerised Universe:

Made up of basic information units

A man-made computerised universe, made up of basic information units, has provided, according to Foster, a new insight into the universe.

For a long time, he said, he had been convinced that there was something profound to be understood from automation generally, and the working of electronic computers in particular. So he has asked himself the question: "What at bottom is an electronic computer?" The answer appeared to be that it is an organisation of electrical waves, arranged in patterns to represent information. The basic unit in which the information is contained is a single electrical wave, usually called the binary digit.

And how is this relevant to the universe? Foster pointed out that the whole universe is made up of one kind of ultimate building block, a single type of wave related to those indivisible units of matter and energy, the so-called quanta. This basic wave could be defined as a unit of information, a cosmic binary digit.

He went on to suggest that the universe is really just a gigantic computer, using its binary digits as man-made computers use theirs. He compared inorganic matter with

the memory bank of a computer.

The whole field of chemistry with its re-arrangement of atoms and their nuclei, represents the computer operation known as data processing. All the different kinds of radiation which travel round the universe correspond to data transmission. Finally, living things—especially the structure of the genetic code, DNA—bear a remarkable likeness to programmes for a computer.

Throughout the ages, said Foster, philosophers have argued the difference between mind and matter, with only an occasional voice daring to suggest mind and matter are the same thing.

It really is, he said, becoming increasingly likely that "the universe is a construction of pure intelligence, of which our man-made computers are analogues in miniature. Indeed, there is only one real question left, and that is, who programmes the cosmic computer? But that, said Foster, is more a question for a theologian than a cyberneticist.

(FWF)

FOREIGN

Yearly Af. 1000
Half Yearly Af. 600
Quarterly Af. 300

Yearly \$ 40
Half Yearly \$ 25
Quarterly \$ 15

Flower power on trucks, private buses



Photo By Gene Donner

Psychodelic paintings on cars is a phenomenon which only happened recently in Europe and America and then it was a short-lived. There have been painters here who have been making a living here from painting bodies of trucks and buses for at least the last 40 years.

We can't say these decorations are psychodelic but they are not realist either. The choice of colour has no relations with the object drawn in many cases.

When it does it is a very exaggerated relationship. For instance if it is the drawing of adobe-walled fort, it looks as though it is tough, stone brick fortification.

There is a lot of writing along with the paintings. These are sentences like safe journey, welcome, goodbye and the like. These are again written with colours which one normally does not write with such as light green and turquoise.

It is not clearly understood why truck owners go into trouble and expenses of decorating their vehicles. One possible explanation is that since like any other piece of machinery trucks and buses are expensive commodities. Once you are rich enough to buy one, your first one must work for a long time to make money for a second one.

Thus the evil eye must be kept

away from the vehicle. In a painted vehicle it will be the decorations not the machine itself which catch the evil eye.

A second consideration might be to attract customers. The grey vehicle traveling along a grey mountain is not as easily seen as a gaily painted one.

Trucks pick up cargo and passengers practically anywhere they can find them. It is here that the paintings come in handy again.

It also may be a response to the taste of the people. The less affluent passengers who use trucks have a special fancy for flowers which take a special place in truck and his decoration.

Enthusiasm for western music in east transitory, Parwana, Partawi believe

In their performances in Kabul Nandari the visiting Iranian artists are drawing capacity audience. Khatera Parwana like her other four times here gets the loudest applause.

A lover of the rubab, a traditional Afghan musical instrument she now has included it in the band that accompanies her.

In talking about Afghan music Khatera Parwana does not sound as alarmed as some of the people here in regard to its coming under

the sway of western music.

"It is still pure", she said, probably meaning, there is yet time to do something about it.

Homa Partaw, who recites poetry, visits Afghanistan for the third time. She even sounded more optimistic about the future of music in this area of the world.

"It can't be denied youth prefers to listen to western music as it evokes ecstasy, and frees them from daily worries.

"But this changes after a time and they return to their own music. To say that the western music will overwhelm the music in the east is impossible", she said.

Parwin Salek, the mistress of ceremonies of the 24 member team has, however, her worries, but not about the fate of the eastern art. It is about weight.

"I was here four years ago also,

I feel like I am still in my own home. But I like the food, especially the kababs a little more, and I eat a little more, and I gain a little weight. Other than that it is splendid", she says.

All members of the group come from the National Ballet Institute of Tehran and Iran Radio and television, part of the ministry of culture. The group is headed by Nezhad Ahmad Zadeh, director of the Rodaki hall.

The Rodaki hall, Iran's version of the Royal Albert Hall, was opened eight years ago. It got the name of Rodaki from the first poet who composed and recited poetry in Persian.

The Persian language has created link between the Afghan and Iranian vocalists. Apart from the skill, and appeal of the singer there

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West German interest in oriental studies

Following are excerpts from a speech made by Ernst Schmidt, managing director of FRG Orient Foundation at Kabul University auditorium yesterday. He was speaking at the opening ceremony of the Afghan-FRG cultural week.

German admiration for countries of the Near and Middle East has resulted in many fruits. Contributions to oriental sciences by German linguists, Islamists, archeologists, ethnologists and research workers in history and art have become a substantial part of German Culture.

Associations or university institutes concentrated on historical, archaeological and Islamic subjects. German oriental research work was limited on cultural or historical problems. Geographic research on oriental countries was the rare exception.

It is still a strange fact that German scholars working in the field of Turkology, Arabistic, Iranistic or Indology, are very seldom interested in contemporary developments of Oriental countries.

It is even today very difficult for students to combine studies in economy, sociology or natural and technical sciences with studies on Islamic culture and history.

It is a certain dilemma of German oriental research work that academic publications from the universities of Kabul, Karachi, Tehran, Beirut or Cairo can not be read by German engineers, physicians or economists because these have not had the chance to study the languages or the culture of those countries.

During and after the first world-war there were certain initiatives by official and private sectors in Germany to remedy this situation. One of the most important centers of such activities became the Deutsch-Persische Gesellschaft which was founded in Berlin in 1918. Its reports, informations, letters and original texts which were monthly published are still reliable sources today.

The name of the society is misleading because the whole area from Afghanistan to the Arab world and Turkey was covered by this periodical.

The continuous reports of that society even included names and family connections of all Afghan students in Germany and most detailed reports on prices, salaries and conditions in Afghanistan and all the other oriental countries.

The last general secretary of the Deutsch-Persische Gesellschaft, Dr. Fritz Hesse, became the first general secretary of the Deutsche Orient-Verein which was founded 1934 in Berlin.

This association became the German center of promotion of economic and cultural association with oriental countries. The issue of a periodical under the name of Orient Nachrichten (later: Der Nahe Osten) the organization of lectures for and assistance to Germans travelling to oriental countries or to personalities from oriental association.

It was the first time that original reports or news of oriental newspapers or other publications were regularly translated and published in the association's periodical.

The German effort to make the original text of a speech of an Afghan or Arab or Persian minister known to the German public seems worth mentioning because formerly only excerpts or commentaries were available.

The events of the second world war brought the activities of the Deutsche Orient-Verein to a standstill in 1944.

The last general secretary of the Deutsche Orient-Verein, Dr. Reinhard Huber, became the first general secretary of the Near and Middle East Association which was formed in Hamburg in 1950.

About 600 German firms are members of this independent and nonprofit association. For about 10 years its main activities were in the economic and trade fields.

Except for research work in geography and tropical medicine there were almost no German research activities with regard to contemporary developments in oriental countries.

It was a promising beginning that the Berlin University opened a faculty, the task of which was to teach and pursue research activities with regard to contemporary developments in foreign countries, specially in the oriental regions.

It was the first time in Germany that this multi-disciplinary effort was started. Unfortunately the second world war ended this new development.

About 15 years later, the South East Asian Institute at the University of Heidelberg set a new beginning almost at the same time when the Institute for Asian Studies was opened in Hamburg with the continuous support of the German Foreign Office.

It is to be noted that this last institute is still independent of the Hamburg University.

This institute was the model of the German Orient Institute which was founded by the Near and Middle East Association and FRG ministries which were interested in it, in 1960 in Hamburg.

One example might explain the aim of this institute: German shipping companies were suffering from the Shatt-el-Arab problem (the Iraqi territorial border is not in the middle of the river, but on the Iranian bank).

They asked for a detailed study from historical, juridical and economic points of view in order to overcome their difficulties. It is clear that only multi-disciplinary research work can tackle such problems.

Other activities of the institute are: structural analyses of Jordan, Iraq and other oriental countries; study of special subjects like the frontier problem between Yemen and South Yemen Peoples Republic, publication of the Economic History of Afghanistan up to 1965 (by Ghani Ghaussi and Eberhard Rein).

All this gives some idea of the research work being done. Most important is the documentary work of the institute. There are collections like the Official Gazette of Saudi-Arabia which is complete since No. 1 of 1924 up to today.

The scientific and practical value of such collections which include also all newspapers, official, semi-official or private publications including bank reports, balance sheets of firms or development plans and their evaluations, is undeniable.

Besides there is a library of more than 6000 volumes containing above all original publications from Oriental countries.

The German Center for Documentation on the Modern Orient which was opened in the German Orient Institute under collaboration of 29 institutes within and without the Federal Republic of Germany started in 1966.

As a preliminary step for a computer system, a perforation machine has just been installed. After two bibliographies on education in Islamic countries and on Arab socialism, the publication of the Afghanistan Bibliography (1945 bis 1967) has to be considered as the main achievement of the documentary work.

It is the result of multi-disciplinary collaboration of different institutes, universities, professors and the Working Group for Afghanistan.

The Working Group for Near and Middle East for Contemporary Research and Documentation was founded in autumn 1967 with the participation of all interested German institutes and the Working Group for Afghanistan.

FRG university-institutes and independent institutes initiated this way in order to ensure the future importance of the German research work in oriental countries.

The intention is to make a homologous from Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Arab countries participate in this research work.

Close exchange relations between the scientific institutes of these countries and the Working Groups in Germany are very important in order to achieve common results useful for both sides.

It is hoped this rather young development in West Germany, which resulted also in new institutes for research work on developing countries and which led to the affiliations between the Universities of Kabul, Bonn, Bochum and Cologne, will find support also in Afghanistan.

Olympiad Cultural Events Reach Mexican Provinces

Jazz in a bullring and a piano recital in an oilworkers auditorium are just two examples of how the cultural programme of the XIX Olympics is coming to Mexico's provinces.

The intense cultural and artistic activities taking place in the capital are being carried to other areas of the Republic and are receiving enthusiastic reception from the public there.

The site of the bullring was Guadalajara, with Dave Brubeck performing. The oilworkers auditorium was in Salamanca, with George Goulding at the piano.

Oaxaca and Merida have heard contemporary Russian poet Evtushenko reading his works. Aguascalientes saw Cuba's Dramatic Workshop (Taller Dramatic), Xalapa thrilled to Canada's National Ballet and Morelia is looking forward to Yugoslavia's Naif art exposition.

The Mexican Organising Committee's Office of National Participation in the Cultural Programme, headed by dancer and choreographer Guillermo Arriaga, has been in charge of making internationally known talent available to the Mexican provinces. The Office also promotes inter-state cultural exchange, and coordinates the presentation in Mexico City of typical art and cultural representations from each area.

The provinces will be sharing in the Organising Committee's Festival of Juvenile Painting, Film Review with the theme "Mission of Youth", World-wide Folklore Festival, Olympic Youth Camp, International Show of Popular Arts, and Exhibition of Regional Costumes, as well as the Ballet of Five Continents. The provinces will participate in these cultural events either through their own contributions to them, or by presentation of the events in their area.

To date, some forty foreign countries have presented programmes in the provinces, and every region of Mexico has been integrated in one form or another into the cultural programme.

Delegates from various Mexican provinces are helping the National Participation Office in bringing the cultural programme to their areas. After their participation in the Olympic effort, they are going to form a permanent group called "Promoters in the Provinces". By joining forces and working up a fifteen-city tour circuit to offer visiting talent, the groups hopes to continue the cultural penetration and present an international event once a week in the circuit cities.

The provinces of Mexico are determined that the cultural spark ignited by the Olympics will continue on to new heights after Olympic year.



A scene from an Iranian folk dance.

(Photo from Anis)



The lion after operation

LION OK AFTER OPERATION; ZOO TO EXPAND

By Our Own Reporter

It was amazing to watch the young lion of Kabul Zoo gaze affectionately at Dr. Ernst Kullman as he walked around the open air cage where the animal is being housed since his operation on his mouth.

Dr. Kullman, a former professor of zoology at the Faculty of Science, Kabul University, and a member of the Afghan Zoological Committee, is here on a four week visit to participate in the Afghan-West German Cultural Week and hold discussions regarding further expansion of Kabul Zoo and problems created by the coming of winter.

"Lions," he remarked after coming out of the cage, "recognise very well the people whom they are familiar with."

The life of the lion was in danger because of a mouth infection. He was operated upon successfully by Dr. Traenhardt, a veterinarian in the Public Health Ministry. His condition is now satisfactory and in

a week's time his mate will be moved in with him.

A recent addition to the zoo has been a collection of birds native to Afghanistan. Dr. Kullman said that zoologists have discovered more than 400 species of birds in Afghanistan, some of which are unique.

At present the zoo contains about 120 different varieties of fishes, reptiles and mammals. There is plenty of space in the area so the zoo can expand without any trouble. There are also plans to build an open air cage on the bank of the Kabul River on whose shore the zoo is situated in Barikot.

New buildings are needed to house the tropical birds and other animals during the winter and to house other animals which the zoo has acquired and is ready to show to the public.

Dr. Kullman said there have been very few instances of illness among the animals so far because of the mild climate of Kabul.

Turning to the problem of ensuring the survival of these animals in Afghanistan, he said hunters are threatening the deer in the south with extinction. "Hunting laws must be passed and seasons designated otherwise," he warned, "many fine species of animals here will disappear."

Among the animals he finds currently in danger are the onager and the white donkey, "a wonderful animal which is still found in Iran but which is rarely seen here, nowadays."

"The tiger and cheetah are also in danger and in the near future hunter and natural disasters may combine to do away with them completely. Fortunately the Marco Polo sheep live in natural habitats which are largely inaccessible to most hunters. These sheep live in the Pamir mountains at heights of 5000 metres.

Rabies, he noted, carried by dogs, foxes and wolves is rare here. However these animals, he said, host the worm known as echinococcus which they spread in their feces. Cows and other domestic animals who eat grass infested with the ova of these worms then pass the parasites on to human beings.

The worm is dangerous because it grows in the liver, lungs, bones and even in the brain. It causes serious damage to these organs and can even kill a man. A good way of solving this problem, Dr. Kullman said, is to get rid of the stray dogs which roam the streets in large numbers.

Italians May OK Advertisements For Birth Control

ROME, Oct. 20. (Reuters) Birth control pills may be allowed to be advertised as such in Italy for the first time if the parliament passes a private member's bill.

The bill has been on sale in Italy officially only as a remedy for women's disorders. All publicity for its contraceptive effect is forbidden under a 38-year-old law dating back to the fascist rule of Benito Mussolini.

The Health Minister, Ennio Lanzini, has now said the government would not oppose a private member's bill concerning the sale of the pill.

The bill was presented to parliament by a Socialist Deputy, Gianni Usardi, last July and follows nearly 20 years of agitation for repeal of the old law.

A Social Democrat Deputy, Camillo Vizzini, supporting a similar private bill two years ago, claimed that the old law was introduced by Mussolini's regime to increase the population in order to promote imperialist policy.

Afghan Week In Review:

Nation Celebrates HM's Birthday

By A Staff Writer

October 14 was celebrated here as the birthday of His Majesty the King and that of the establishment of the Supreme Court of Afghanistan.

On this day one year ago, in accordance with the directives of the 1964 constitution the Supreme Court was opened. His Majesty marked the day by sending a special message to Chief Justice Ziaee and members of the Judiciary.

The expectations of the state and the people of Afghanistan from the Judiciary especially from every unit of the Judiciary in the provinces and districts are many, His Majesty said.

"But," His Majesty added in the message, "the activities of the Supreme Court during its first year have all been such that I and the entire people of Afghanistan expected from the Judiciary in the light of the new order."

His Majesty expressed the hope that the independent Judiciary in the country will be able to ensure justice, preserve the rights of individuals and the State and consolidate the foundations of the new order.

His Majesty's birthday celebrations were highlighted by a spectacular buzkashi game in Bagrami grounds in which eight teams from the northern provinces took part.

Thousands of Kabul's residents, tourists from abroad and the provinces watched the game.

Yesterday His Majesty gave

the championship cup to the captain of the Kunduz team and had all the team members and captains lunch on the royal table.

A group of 24 Iranian artists also visited Kabul to take part in His Majesty's birthday celebrations.

The nation also began observing Red Crescent Week and the Afghan-West German Cultural Week was inaugurated yesterday in Kabul. In his inaugural speech the high President of the Afghan Red Crescent Society, Prince Ahmad Shah, said Red Crescent Week provides an opportunity for the public to participate in doing good unto others and strengthening the spirit of cooperation and collaboration which is the requirement for the success welfare organisations.

He urged that in rendering assistance one should not think on national terms alone but should act and think on human terms.

The high President of the Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, Princess Shams, was also here this week at the invitation of Prince Ahmad Shah to participate in the Red Crescent Week. During which time individuals and organisations around the country are raising funds for the society by holding functions, performances, sports, events and direct contributions.

In the Afghan-FRG cultural week an exhibition of paintings

by Afghan and FRG painters, a pocketbook show, and lectures by Afghan and FRG scholars are some of the features.

Afghanistan also marked the centenary of Mahatma Gandhi the Indian leader. Prime Minister Etemadi in his speech on the life and philosophy of the man said "it is regrettable that there has been no response to the peaceful campaign and legitimate wishes of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and the people of Pashtoonistan for the attainment of their right to self-determination."

The prime minister expressed the hope that "farsightedness will prevail and the case will find a solution through realism, justice, understanding and a spirit of brotherhood."

The Pashtoonistan issue was also raised at the United Nations by Afghanistan's permanent representative in his speech at the general assembly who said, "the fate of a population and territory which far exceeds Kashmir in both respects is involved."

Pointing out that the situation in this area is fraught with dangers Abdur Rahman Pazhwak said "we shall try and continue to hope that the Pakistan government will realise the gravity of this situation and deal with it in accordance with accepted international standards for regulating such disputes on the basis of undeniable rights of the peoples and nations for self-determination."

Apollo-7

(Continued from page 1)

bio-medical harness which astronauts must carry to keep the end and informed about their physical condition: pulse, breathing, tension, etc.

The straps of the harness are particularly cumbersome and there is a permanent risk that they cause serious incidents when they become entangled with the instruments on the spacecraft.

Part of Walter Schirra's and Donn Eisele's harnesses are no longer in working shape and the two men have been permitted to put them aside.

Asked to give an estimate of the success of the flight, a NASA expert said that "basically it looks like we are well up in the 90 per cent range, if we had a successful re-entry."

"And I'm sure we are going to get that," he added.

When the spacecraft returns to the ground Tuesday it will have been in space for 10 days and 20 hours, totalling 780 astronaut-hours, in one single flight. This far exceeds the 534 cosmonaut-hours of all the Soviet space flights.

A NASA spokesman remarked that Apollo-7's three-man crew are "winning" their flight plan to the letter and to a minute, which was a very good omen.

"Let's hope they will carry on until Tuesday," he added.

Millions of American television viewers had a shock yesterday when they saw "Wally Walt and Donn Eisele show from outer space" presented the completely empty cabin of the spacecraft.

Air Traffic

(Continued from page 1)

Although Bakhtar airlines, the country's second airline serving only domestic routes, did not start operation until this year domestic air traffic increased from 22,790 passengers in 1966 to 28,940 passengers in 1967. The main increase, the Air Authority figures show, was on the Kabul-Mazare Sharif route.

Civil air traffic during 1967 was confined to two international and five domestic airports. They are Kabul and Kandahar. However 83 per cent of international passengers and over 90 per cent of domestic passengers embarked or disembarked in Kabul.

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Jackie Meets Press, But Pleads For Some Respect

SCORPIOS ISLAND, Greece, Panayitis—the little virgin.

Oct. 20. (AP).—Speaking publicly for the first time of her romance with Aristotle Onassis, a radiant-looking Jacqueline Kennedy said Saturday on the eve of the wedding:

"Tell's and I are very happy."

Mrs. Kennedy posed for photographers on this 500-acre island haven in the Ionian sea after a mild brawl between newsmen and guards intent on keeping all but invited guests away from the wedding of President John F. Kennedy's 39-year-old widow and the 62-year-old Greek shipping magnate.

The Greek press hailed the pending ceremony, which has drawn worldwide attention, as "the wedding of the century."

A Roman Catholic, Mrs. Kennedy refused to answer questions about arrangements for the Greek Orthodox wedding ceremony. Her standing in her own church will be jeopardised because Onassis is divorced. Onassis remained on his yacht Chritina.

Two crowns of orange blossoms—worn by bridal couples as a symbol of fertility and purity—and two slim white candles carried by pages in the traditional orthodox rites were flown in from Athens. The island's chapel is named

Princess Lee Radziwill, the bride's sister, said all the details of the wedding were in the hands of "my sister" and Onassis. She didn't even know, she said, if there were such things as a "best man" and a bridesmaid, though they are provided for in a Greek orthodox marriage.

"I am really not entitled to talk about it," she said.

Olympic Airways officials, who are on the payroll of Onassis as the controlling owners of the airline, chopped off all further conversation at the airport when Princess Lee arrived from Paris and forbade further contact.

Prof. Ioannis Georgakis, general manager of the airline, apologised:

"I'm sorry, but they do regard this as their own affair and that's the rule of the game."

Georgakis said the wedding would take place at 1400 GMT in the tiny chapel on Scorpis.

Jacqueline Kennedy issued a statement last night announcing her wedding with Greek shipowner Aristotle Onassis Sunday and pleading with the press to allow the ceremony to take place in privacy.

Iranian Artists

(Continued from page 3)

should be something in the songs that are sung to make captivate curious audience, said one of the members.

"This is done by taking poem which have depth and feeling, but with a touch of strangeness, and mild unfamiliarity."

This is why she thought some of the Afghan artists sing poems of Rahim Moiray and some of the Iranian poets and Khalili, Pazhwak, Kari and Khalil are becoming favourites of Iranian singers.

It appeared that Zaland, Sara Zaland, Mohammad Zaher, Khalil and Rokhsana, vocalists of Radio Afghanistan, have made their way to the hearts and souls of the Iranian audiences from among the Afghan singers.

Rokhsana who earlier this year quit singing is now back at Radio Afghanistan. It is good to see that Khalil and his other friends are also back from the Soviet Union to make Musical rendezvous complete.

Home Briefs

KABUL, Oct. 20. (Bakhtar).—Habibullah Mali Achekzal, president of Da Afghanistan Bank returned from Washington yesterday after participating in the meetings of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund in Washington.

KABUL, Oct. 2. (Bakhtar).—Sir Gordon Whitteridge, British ambassador in Kabul, yesterday called on the president of the Workers Jirgah, Dr. Abdul Zaher.

KABUL, Oct. 2. (Bakhtar).—Information and Culture Minister Dr. Mohammad Anas yesterday gave a luncheon in honour of the visiting Iranian artists in Baghe Bala restaurants.

Last night the Iranian visitors were guests of Deputy Information and Culture Minister Mohammad Khaled Roshan in Kabul Hotel where he presented various souvenirs to them to mark their visit here.

HERAT, Oct. 20. (Bakhtar).—Asphalting of the Herat city roads began yesterday by the city's municipal corporation. The municipality received the needed equipment from the Ministry of Public Works and 900 tons of asphalt from the government.

IMF Meeting

(Continued from page 2)

Few countries in the early stages of industrialisation, including Afghanistan, can have much hope, despite their best efforts, of building up and maintaining an essential level of foreign exchange reserves except at the cost of postponing needed investment, which slows the economic growth rate.

The export earnings of developing countries are heavily dependent on prices and trading opportunities prevailing in world commodity markets. Adverse long-term price trends and recent further falling of prices for some primary products have created considerable balance of payments pressures.

In Afghanistan severe winters have prevented increases in agricultural production, limiting exports and necessitating added imports. But the price decline in international markets has also been a factor beyond the control of the country.

The average price of karakul lambskins which amounted to \$ 8.91 per skin in 1963 was only \$ 7.82 in 1967. More recently, the average price for the three auctions held in 1968 has been around \$ 6 per skin. If such trends continue for all of 1968 the country will lose one-third of the foreign exchange earnings from this important export commodity.

Trial By Jury And Cox and Box

Two Gilbert and Sullivan musical comedies 8:00 p.m. Oct. 17-29 presented by the Kabul Amateur Dramatic Society, directed by Joan Ramsey.
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